

CITY OF DUPONT'S WEEKLY BITS & BYTES

Friday, October 13, 2023

Parks and Recreation



Calling all Halloween Enthusiasts for an Out of this World Experience!



The City of DuPont's Annual Bone Hunt is scheduled for **Saturday**, **October 21**, and we cant wait for you to have an Out of this World Experience! Join us at Clocktower park starting at 6PM to hunt for bones throughout the park. Pre-registration is required and kids ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Meet us under the big white tent with a flashlight and let's hunt together for some amazing prizes. Costumes are encouraged, but not necessary, dress for the weather!

Registration info can be found here:

<u>Events | DuPont, WA - Official Website</u> (dupontwa.gov)

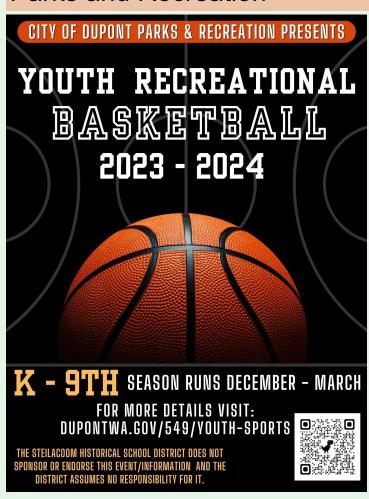




Downtown Trick or Treating

As we turn the pages to October, this means downtown Trick or Treating in DuPont! Keeping with tradition, Parks & Recreation will host downtown Trick or Treating on Tuesday, October 31, from 3:00 PM-5:00 PM along Wilmington Drive. Families are all invited to Trick or Treat safely and responsibly on Halloween in our local businesses. We are often asked why we don't extend our Trick or Treating along Wilmington Drive to later in the evening. We end this annual event at 5PM out of respect to our business owners who also have families at home to celebrate the holiday with. We want them to be able to be home at a reasonable hour to enjoy time with their friends and families as well. If you see a business owner along the way, please be sure to thank them for opening their doors to the community on this special day. Event info can be found here: Events | DuPont, WA - Official Website (dupontwa.gov)

Parks and Recreation



Youth Basketball Registration

Youth Basketball registration for the 2023/2024 season is now open for grades K thru 9 and will remain open thru October 26th. (Late registration will remain open thru October 31) This is our largest youth sports program of the year and we are in need of lots of helping hands. If you are interested in coaching, scorekeeping, etc., please contact Amy Walker @ awalker@dupontwa.gov and we will put you in touch with the right folks! Practices are scheduled to start December 4th and will run through the end of February. All frequently asked questions and the registration link can be found here:

Youth Sports | DuPont, WA - Official Website (dupontwa.gov)

Calling all Parks & Recreation Instructors!

Parks & Recreation is currently looking for instructors for all types of classes for the young and the young at heart. If you have a special skill or hobby that you would like to share with the community and make a little money while doing so, please take a moment to complete the following survey and your Parks & Recreation team will be in touch! We cannot wait to hear from you!

Recreation & Activities | DuPont, WA - Official Website



2023/2024 Dance Classes

Registration for the 2023/2024 dance season is open with Valor School of Dance! Parks & Recreation is pleased to partner with Valor for another year of quality dance instruction for our families right here in DuPont at our Community Center in historic DuPont. Our dance program continues to grow at astonishing rates and we are expanding our programs to meet the need. Registration info can be found here: Classes | DuPont, WA - Official Website (dupontwa.gov)





MUNICIPAL POSITION OPENING! - Civil Service Commission

The City of DuPont is looking for a citizen to fill a vacant position on the Civil Service Commission. The purpose of the Civil Service Commission is to implement, administer, and direct a civil service system that is consistent with state laws for sworn personnel of the DuPont Police Department and uniformed personnel of the DuPont Fire Department. The commission provides sworn police and uniformed fire employees with a quasi-judicial process for hearings on appeals concerning disciplinary actions, examination and testing, and other related issues.

For citizens interested in applying, detailed information about Civil Service Commission responsibilities and meeting times can be found on the City's website at https://www.dupontwa.gov/83/Commissions.

The current application can be found at: https://www.dupontwa.gov/512/Vacancies.

MUNICIPAL POSITION OPENING! - Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC)

The City of DuPont is looking for a citizen to fill a vacant position on the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC). The Lodging Tax Advisory Committee oversees the LTAC grant program which is related to tourism development and promotion and made possible through taxes paid by consumers when they stay in paid lodging in the City of DuPont. LTAC grants are available to non-profits and public agencies. The committee reviews LTAC grant applications and recommends grant awards to the City Council for approval.

For citizens interested in applying, detailed information about LTAC responsibilities and meeting times can be found on the City's website at https://www.dupontwa.gov/83/Commissions.

The current application can be found at: https://www.dupontwa.gov/512/Vacancies.

MUNICIPAL POSITION OPENING! - Planning Commission

The City of DuPont is looking for a citizen to fill a vacant position on the Planning Commission. The purpose of the Planning Commission is to advise the City Council on General Land Use, Growth Management, Long-Range Capital Improvement Plans, and Transportation Planning.

For citizens interested in applying, detailed information about the Planning Commission's responsibilities and meeting times can be found on the City's website at https://www.dupontwa.gov/83/Commissions.

The current application can be found at: https://www.dupontwa.gov/512/Vacancies.

Community News



On October 19, 2023, millions of people will participate in the largest earthquake drill ever: **ShakeOut!** Why? Earthquakes can happen anywhere you work, live, or travel, which is why everyone, everywhere should know how to protect themselves should an earthquake occur.

Register at <u>ShakeOut.org/register</u> to practice and improve your level of earthquake safety.

Everyone, everywhere can participate! Individuals, families, businesses, schools, government agencies and organizations are all invited to join on 10/19 or any day in 2023.

October 2023

I am grateful for the opportunity to share a monthly message with our community. This month, I am excited to introduce you to JoAnne Fernandes, principal of Pioneer Middle School. Principal Fernandes and her team are committed to student success and are focusing on an important issue related to digital devices and healthy cognitive development.

K. Weight

Dr. Kathi Weight, Superintendent



A "Digital Detox" Message from Principal JoAnne Fernandes – Pioneer Middle School

As a society, we have never been more connected to technology and social media. According to a 2023 report, 95% of U.S. teens have access to a smartphone and 45% are 'almost constantly' on the internet. 92% of teens report going online daily, with many accessing the internet on their cellphones during school hours.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the use of technology by middle and high-school students for social, information, leisure, and educational purposes has dramatically changed. For the staff and students at Pioneer Middle School, this increase has been seen as a markedly negative change, affecting students' sense of community and overall engagement in learning.

Staff at Pioneer Middle School met last spring to discuss their concerns. Initially, the school was concerned about families supporting a measure to restrict cell phone usage at school. Staff spent time learning about the work and research of Dr. Nicholas Kardaras and his recent books entitled, Glow Kids: How Screen Addiction is Hijacking Our Kids – and How to Break the Trance, and Digital Madness: How Social Media is Driving Our Mental Health Crisis – and How to Restore Our Sanity.

Pioneer Middle School's administration communicated with families and community to garner support for what they are calling Digital Detox. In the August Welcome Back letter to families, I wrote, "This year at Pioneer, students will be asked to keep their phones off and away in their backpacks/lockers from 8:03a.m. (when they enter the main hallways to head to class/lockers), until 2:40 p.m. (when they leave). Our goal is to empower and retrain them to be fully present at school and in their classrooms. To that end, I encourage you to read the article, Take Away Their Cellphones...So we can rewire schools for belonging and achievement. Our goal is to support all of our students to grow academically and socially, and we want to remove any barriers that may prevent this."

After a month of school, Pioneer Middle School has felt overwhelming support from families about Digital Detox. We will continue to focus on the theme of Digital Detox in subsequent professional training throughout the year. As one parent shared, "Thank you for doing this so we have a generation of responsible, alert, creative minds that are fully focused and not disrespectful to those who work hard to stand in front of that classroom and teach. May this year be the year. Pioneers, go strong!"



AUGUST 2023

I-5 - Mounts Rd. to Steilacoom-DuPont Rd. Corridor Improvements

Beginning in late summer 2023, contractor crews working for the Washington State Department of Transportation will begin construction on Interstate 5 in DuPont near Joint Base Lewis-McChord. This is the third in a series of projects that widens I-5 to add HOV lanes between DuPont and Lakewood.

Improvements coming to DuPont and JBLM

In addition to extending the I-5 HOV lanes, construction crews will make improvements that enhance mobility and safety in DuPont and near the JBLM DuPont Gate at exit 119, including:

- A new bridge spanning I-5 and the railroad.
 The new bridge will feature a partial Diverging
 Diamond Interchange and a shared-use path for
 pedestrians and bicyclists between JBLM and
 DuPont.
- Direct access between JBLM and both directions of I-5.
- A new roundabout connecting Steilacoom-DuPont Road and the new overpass.

The project will also add a new signal at the intersection of the southbound I-5 off-ramp at Mounts Road (exit 116) and improve the I-5 vertical clearance over Pendleton Avenue.

What you can expect

Construction will begin in summer 2023 and is expected to be complete in 2026. The project consists of multiple stages that involve overnight and weekend ramp closures, lane shifts onto temporary pavement, potential speed limit reductions, and bicycle and pedestrian detours. Crews will contain dust and debris to the construction site and will minimize noise as much

DuPont

Dipont

Joint Base Lewis-McChord

The project extends HOV lanes in both directions into DuPont.

Stay connected

Follow us on Twitter @WSDOT_Tacoma

Check out our Facebook page: facebook.com/WSDOT

Project hotline: 206-467-2171

Scan the QR code or visit: wsdot. wa.gov/construction-planning/ search-projects/i-5-mounts-rdsteilacoom-dupont-rd-corridorimprovements



For updated weekly ramp and lane

closure schedules, visit: wsdot.com/Travel/Real-time/

as practical. Clear signage will indicate required detours throughout the project.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information: This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing the Office of Equity and Civil Rights at wsdotada@wsdot. wa.gov or by calling toll free, 855-362-4ADA(4232). Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may make a request by calling the Washington State Relay at 711.

Title VI Notice to Public: It is the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) policy to assure that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise discriminated against under any of its programs and activities. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated, may file a complaint with WSDOT's Office of Equity and Civil Rights (OECR). For additional information regarding Title VI complaint procedures and/or information regarding our non-discrimination obligations, please contact OECR's Title VI Coordinator at (360) 705-7090. 23-08-0293

WSDOT: I-5 Mounts Rd to Steilacoom-DuPont Road Corridor Improvements outreach links:

Online open house:

https://engage.wsdot.wa.gov/i-5-mounts-to-steilacoom-dupont-rd/

WSDOT Blog:

https://wsdotblog.blogspot.com/2023/09/i-5-hov-dupont-jblm.html

YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIDRY3j6DNI&t=1s

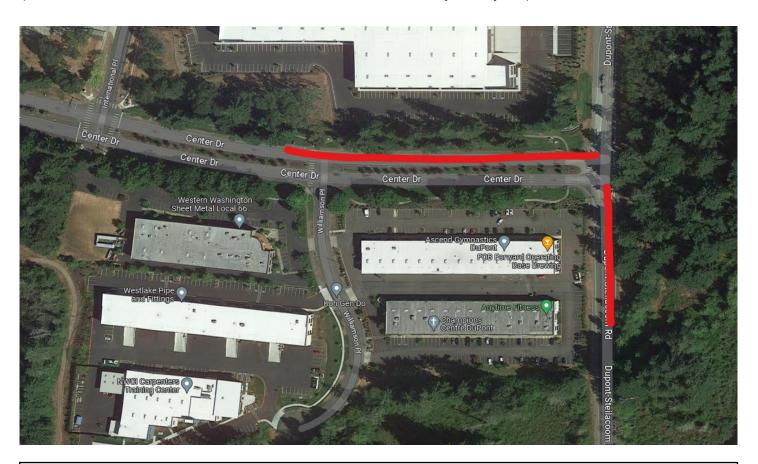
The WSDOT Facebook page also has a post linking the blog and online open house:

https://www.facebook.com/WSDOT/

Public Services

TRAFFIC ALERT!

A Comcast contractor is scheduled to do work in the right-of-way in a section of Center Drive from October 9th - November 10th. They will also be directing traffic on DuPont-Steilacoom Road for turns onto Center Drive. Their work hours will be 7:30 AM – 3:00 PM. Westbound Center Drive and northbound DuPont-Steilacoom Road will be reduced to one lane during these times. Please be cautious, patient, and follow all traffic instructions in this work zone. Thank you for your patience!



PUBLIC SERVICES - POLITICAL SIGNS

As election time gets closer, temporary political signs are being placed throughout the City. Following these types of sign requirements are essential for pedestrian and driver safety. Specifically, signs in locations that interfere with the site distance of pedestrians or motorists proceeding on or approaching public streets, intersections, alleys, driveways, parking areas, or sidewalks are not allowed.

Site distance can be determined by drawing an imaginary line that is 30' from the intersecting point of two sides of the right of way as shown in the graphic. All signs must be outside of this "site distance triangle". Signs that are placed within the site distance triangle will be removed and held at the City of DuPont Public Works and Maintenance Facility (301 Louviers Ave.) for pick up Monday- Friday between 8am-3pm.

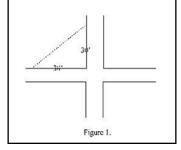
Signs must be removed within five working days following an election.

DuPont Municipal Code (DMC) DMC 25.110.010 and 25.116.110 can be found at these links:

https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/DuPont/#!/DuPont25/ DuPont25110.html#25.110

https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/DuPont/#!/DuPont25/ DuPont25116.html#25.116.110





Public Services



CITY OF DUPONT WATER MAIN FLUSHING

The City of DuPont periodically flushes the pipes in our water system to remove rust and sediment, which helps ensure you receive clean, reliable water. Flushing forces high-velocity flows through the pipes and out through fire hydrants. Along with scouring the inside of water mains, this also helps us find and repair malfunctioning valves and hydrants before they cause problems. Water department crews will likely begin flushing in October 2023 and should complete the program in early 2024.

What to Expect-

- During flushing, you might see utility crews working at hydrants and valves in intersections and at the end of cul-de-sacs.
- Your water pressure may decrease during flushing, and you may see discoloration. This is temporary, not harmful and should clear up quickly.
- Avoid running the tap or turning on appliances that use water, such as dishwashers and clothes washers, when flushing is happening in your area.
- If you get discolored water or find sediment in your water, remove any aerators from your faucets and run the cold tap for a few minutes or until the water runs clear.
- Make sure your first load of laundry after flushing is dark clothes only.

If you have questions during normal business hours about our flushing programs, or if your water does not clear up within a short time after flushing is completed, please contact our Water Quality Section at (253) 964-8121 or publicworks@dupontwa.gov.

After business hours, call the Public Works Afterhours Emergency Contact Line at (253) 912-5389.

DuPont Fire Department

Response Information: The table below shows general responses. Details, if needed, are listed to better explain the response. The yellow highlighted areas in the "Current" column are statistics from the past week and the "Year" statistics include all responses since January 1st of this year.



(Category) Description Details	Current	Year
(10) Fire, other		4
(11) Structure Fire		4
(13) Mobile property (vehicle) fire		7
(14) Natural vegetation fire		11
(15) Outside rubbish fire		0
(25) Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition		1
(30) Rescue, emergency medical call (EMS), other		2
(31) Medical assist		16
(32.1) Emergency medical service (EMS) incident	17	472
(32.2) Motor vehicle accident with injuries	2	30
(33) Lock-In		0
(35) Extrication, rescue		1
(36) Water or ice-related rescue		2
(40) Flammable gas or liquid condition, other		0
(41) Combustible/flammable spills & leaks		6
(42) Chemical Release, reaction or toxic condition		3
(44) Electrical wiring/equipment problem		1
(50) Service call, other	3	45
(51) Person in distress		9
(52) Water Problem	1	1
(53) Smoke, odor problem		2
(54) Animal problem or rescue		1
(55) Public service assistance	1	34
(56) Unauthorized burning		1
(60) Good intent call, other		9
(61) Dispatched and canceled en route		44
(62) Wrong location, no emergency found		2
(65) Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke		12
(66) EMS call-transported by non-fire agency		1
(70) False alarm and false call, other		13
(71) Malicious, mischievous false alarm	1	3
(73) System or detector malfunction		31
(74) Unintentional system/detector operation (no fire)		14
(91) Citizen complaint		2
Unknown		0
TOTALS	25	784

Transport	Current	Year
Allenmore		1
Madigan	4	96
Mary Bridge	1	53
St. Clare	1	99
St. Joseph	1	31
St. Peters	1	10
Tacoma General		12
TOTAL	8	302
ALS	11	314
BLS	8	187

Calls by time of day (8-hr blocks):		
0000-0759	10	157
0800-1649	10	368
1700-2359	5	259
TOTAL	25	784

Calls by day of the week:		
Sunday	6	90
Monday		97
Tuesday	2	107
Wednesday	3	142
Thursday	6	133
Friday	4	105
Saturday	4	110
TOTAL	25	784

Mutual Aid / Multiple Calls:		
DPF Received	3	56
DPF Provided	2	46
Multiple Calls	3	94

Safety Message - Fall Fire Safety Tips

As outdoor temperatures cool, it's only natural to warm things up inside.

Did you know that fire hazards in and around your home or business stem largely from heating your space? Its true. With that being said, it is no surprise that The American Red Cross reports a drastic increase in the amount of US house fires during the fall and winter months.



When it comes to fire prevention, we consider ourselves to be experts on the subject. To keep you, your family, and your co-workers safe this season, let's take a few moments to review some key **fall fire safety tips** and fire prevention techniques.

Replace Batteries in Smoke Alarms & Locate Fire Extinguishers

Turning the clocks back in the fall is an ideal time to do a system check in your home or business. Replace the batteries in all <u>smoke alarms</u> and carbon monoxide detectors (regardless if they haven't lost charge.) If you have a fire extinguisher (and you should!), make sure it's fully charged, and still within the expiration date. If you don't have a fire extinguisher, get one!

DuPont Fire Department Safety Message - Fall Fire Safety Tips continued...

Develop a Home Fire Safety Plan

If your home catches fire, what's your plan? Make sure everyone in your home of appropriate age knows where the extinguisher is stored and how to properly use it – better yet, take a few minutes to develop a fire safety plan and escape route for your family.

Knowledge and preparation are the keys to keeping yourself, and your family members, safe in the event of a fire. Here are a few key elements that you need to consider in your safety plan:

Get the Kids Involved

Teach them how, and when, to dial 911 (make sure little ones know their address, too). Ask them often if they can recall the safety evacuation plan you've discussed. Make them learn the stop, drop, and roll method for extinguishing a fire on themselves or escaping beneath a fire.

Check your Heating System

Before it gets really cold—early October is the ideal time—turn on your heating unit to ensure it is working properly. Your unit has been sitting dormant for about 6 months, so you'll want to make sure everything is in proper working order before you *really* need it. While furnaces are a leading cause of <u>house fires</u> in the <u>US</u>, there are a few things you can do to reduce the risk of **furnace fires**:

Regularly replace furnace filters.

Keep all areas around the furnace clean and unobstructed.

Keep the burner area clean and clear of debris.

Keep all combustible items at least six-inches away from the vent pipe.

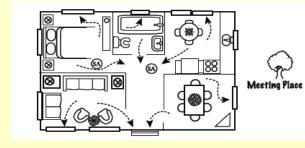
Never close off more than 20% of heat registers.

Should you notice any issues with your heating system during the test run, contact a professional immediately. For preventative care, have your central heating system cleaned and serviced by a certified HVAC contractor once annually. A proper working heating system greatly reduces fire risks,

KIDS!!! Want to make a Home Fire Escape Plan? Learn how by visiting Sparky.org or Sparkyschoolhouse.org



- Draw a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- Visit each room. Find two ways out.
- All windows and doors open easily. You should be able to use them to get outside.
- Make sure your home has smoke alarms. Push the test button to make sure each alarm is working.
- Pick an outside meeting place a safe distance from your home where everyone should meet.
- ☐ The house or building number can be seen from the street.
- Make sure your plan meets the needs of all your family members, including those with sensory or physical disabilities.
- Everyone in the home should know the fire department's emergency number and how to call once they
 are safely outside.
- Practice your home fire drill at least twice a year with everyone in the household, including guests. Practice at least once during the day and at night.



- Draw a floor plan or a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- Mark two ways out of each room.
- Mark all of the **smoke alarms** with SA. Smoke alarms should be in each sleeping room, outside each sleeping area, and on every level of the home.
- Pick a family **meeting place** outside where everyone can meet.
- Remember, practice your plan at least twice a year!

DuPont Police Department



Weekly Activity Report

Duty * Professionalism * Dedication



Total Calls for Service 10/02/23 – 10/08/23: 253 Average per day: 36.14

The "Total Calls for Service" statistic above includes, but is not limited to, the following incidents:

EMERGENCY & PATROL INCIDENTS

- 04 Citizen Assist
- 09 Community Oriented Policing
- 02 Domestic Violence Verbal
- 01 Motor Vehicle Collision
- 01 Found Narcotics
- 87 Traffic Stops
- 01 Traffic Complaint
- 01 Threats
- 03 Agency Assist
- 01 Unwanted Person
- 01 Parking Problem
- 02 Search Warrant
- 01 Missing Child (found)

PROPERTY & OTHER CRIMES

- 01 Commercial Burglary
- 01 Motor Vehicle Theft
- 01 Vehicle Prowl
- 01 Negligent Driving 1st Degree

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

- 01 Child Abuse (open investigation)
- 01 Identity Theft

ARRESTS/REFERRALS

- 01 Arrest Negligent Driving 1st Degree booked into
- 01 Child Abuse referred to CPs

DEPARTMENT NEWS

- Officers participated in National Coffee with a Cop at a local coffee shop.
- Several DuPont businesses attended a DuPont Police Business Watch Meeting.
- Speed emphases were conducted throughout the city.
- Three officers completed Doppler Radar and Lidar Training in Gig Harbor.
- Officers completed online training.
- DuPont officers greeted students, parents, and staff at the local schools.



REPORTING AN INCIDENT? NEED AN OFFICER?

- To report an emergency, dial 9-1-1
- To report a non-emergency, dial (253) 287-4455
- If you aren't sure, let us help you by dialing (253) 964
 -7060

If you have non-urgent questions, suggestions, want to file a complaint or commend a D.P.D. staff member, we appreciate the opportunity to assist you. You may reach us via email at Police@dupontwa.gov or by telephone at (253) 964-7060.

DOWNLOAD THE DUPONT POLICE APP TODAY!









City Council and Calendars

- 10/10/2023 Regular Council Meeting overview:
- Proclamation: Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
- X

- · Study Session:
- Discussion on updating the City Administrator's salary pay range.
- Review of the Parks & Recreation Commission recommendation to the Council.



Helpful Meeting Links:

- City of DuPont Meetings can be watched live or later at: City's YouTube channel: (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI-nrLK1wNfpq3 CeNJw40A).
- Regular Council Meetings can be watched live or later at the City's YouTube channel and/or at: Pierce County TV (https://www.piercecountytv.org/1306/DuPont-Live-Meetings).
- Agendas, once published, are officially posted on the bulletin board at City Hall and available at the following link: https://dupont.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/777/.
- ♦ Minutes, after they are passed, are available at: https://dupont.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/7/.

Regular City Council meetings begin at 6:00 PM on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

Published agendas can be found on the website's homepage; click on the meeting date on the City of DuPont Calendar and then "**Download Agenda**".



Date	Time	UPCOMING MEETINGS
10/16/2023	6:00 PM	Park & Recreation Commission Special Meeting
10/17/2023	6:00 PM	Special City Council Meeting
10/23/2023	6:00 PM	Planning Commission Special Meeting
10/24/2023	6:00 PM	City Council Meeting
11/6/2023	6:00 PM	Park & Recreation Commission Meeting
11/10/2023		City Hall CLOSED
11/13/2023	5:00 PM	Tree Advisory Commission Meeting
11/13/2023	6:30 PM	Planning Commission Meeting
11/14/2023	11:00 AM	Civil Service Commission
11/14/2023	6:00 PM	City Council Meeting
11/23-11/24/23		City Hall CLOSED in celebration of Thanksgiving

Date	ACTIVITIES - SAVE THE DATE!	Location/Information
10/31/2023	Downtown Trick or Treating	https://www.dupontwa.gov/195/Events

UPCOMING OFFICE CLOSURES

Reminder: City Hall will be closed November 10th in honor of Veterans Day and November 23rd and 24th in celebration of Thanksgiving.